

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE In re application of

Hiroaki NASU , et al. Docket No: Q60610 Appln. No.: 09/645,599

Confirmation No.: 4612

Group Art Unit: 2879 Filed: August 25, 2000

Examiner: Kenneth A. BERCK For:

SPARK PLUG AND PRODUCING METHOD THEREFOR

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 27, 2003, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A spark plug comprising: a central electrode;

an insulator provided outside said central electrode;

a main metal shell provided outside said insulator; and

a ground electrode provided to oppose to said central electrode to define a spark discharge gap;

wherein a surface of said main metal shell is coated with a complex chromate coat that contains a chromium component comprising at least 90wt% of trivalent chromium and at least